



President Jordan and Linda Jordan greet student guests at the Holiday Open House Dec. 15.

University copes with water alert

It was early evening on Dec. 8 when Gallaudet's administration first received word that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was warning residents of most of Washington, D.C., and parts of Northern Virginia not to drink tap water. Tests were being conducted to determine if the water supply contained a harmful parasite.

Three days later, the EPA declared the water safe to drink. But at Gallaudet, a well-orchestrated effort began as soon as the alert was issued to safeguard the University community and ensure that plenty of safe drinking water was available.

By the morning of Dec. 9, all of the University's water fountains had either been turned off or had signs posted alerting people not to drink from them. The University and Pre-College cafeterias were busy boiling water, and arrangements had been made with a wholesale company to deliver 25,000 16-ounce bottles of spring water to Kendall Green. (The Northwest Campus is part of Shepherd Park, the only area of the city not affected by the alert.)

'Deaf Mosaic,' Gannon honored

Silent News, a popular newspaper for the deaf community, has recognized Jack Gannon, special assistant for advocacy in the Office of the President and a noted author, and the television program "Deaf Mosaic" for their efforts to benefit deaf and hard of hearing people over the past 25 years.

Silent News named "Newsmakers of the Quarter Century" in 11 categories. "Deaf Mosaic" was chosen in the Media category and Gannon was selected in the Deaf Culture category.

Honorees will be featured in the January 1994 edition of *Silent News*.

"[Safe] water was available at all times," said Peter Goodman, manager of facilities and property resources in the Office of Business Services. "I don't think we could have done any better, given the time frame under which we had to act."

Goodman said a strategy to get the word out to the campus and to arrange for the distribution of safe water was devised by Fred Kendrick, director of Physical Plant Administration and Safety and Security, Lee Gaskins, manager of Safety and Security, Dr. Harvey Corson, vice president for Pre-College Programs, Dwight Benedict, director of Student Life for the University, and Wilton McMillan, director of Student Life for MSSD.

Priorities for water distribution were set, with dormitories, the Child Development Center, the infirmary, and Pre-College Programs topping the list. Next, water was distributed by Business Services and Central Receiving staff to all other areas of the campus, with particular attention given to physical education and athletics areas.

"By 4:30 p.m. [Dec. 9] we had distributed water to 98 percent of the campus," said Goodman, "and we followed up the next morning with the remaining two percent." He said that a second distribution was made to dormitories, the infirmary, and the athletics areas. In addition, boiled water was available in the cafeterias at all times. A small reserve of bottles of spring water was held for the weekend. Fortunately, the University learned on Saturday that the warning had been lifted.

"There were no heroes here," said Goodman in reviewing the way the University responded to the emergency. "The point I want to make is that it was a team effort by various University divisions working together to get the job done—to get water distributed as quickly and efficiently as possible."

University Faculty votes Dec. 13 to amend guidelines regarding SCPI

A proposal by the Faculty Senate to amend Faculty Guidelines regarding the Sign Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI) was passed by the University Faculty at a regular meeting Dec. 13.

The proposal originally came from Committee A (Faculty Welfare) and was discussed at the senate's Nov. 22 meeting. The Board of Trustees is expected to act on the proposal at its February meeting.

If approved by the board, this change will set a three-week time period within which faculty must receive their SCPI scores. It also will clarify that those scores must include the numeric score and a category-by-category breakdown of how the candidate was rated by each of the three raters. This written feedback also must include an invitation to the faculty member to schedule an in-person meeting with the SCPI coordinator or the coordinator's representative to view and discuss the videotape of the interview.

A task force also would be established to continue working on the SCPI. Its goals would include increasing the number of SCPI raters, evaluating New Faculty Orientation and its second-year follow-up program, examining the training that SCPI raters receive, and identifying ways to provide sign language instruction to faculty beyond the two years of formal training now provided.

Several faculty members, however, expressed dissent about the SCPI as a valid and reliable tool for evaluating faculty sign communication skills. They stated that the test is too inconsistent in its results and too unsure a

measure of faculty communication skills to be used as a factor in determining retention, promotion, merit raises, and tenure.

Some discussion centered on the possibility of faculty raising a formal challenge to the senate's decision to eliminate the last part of the proposal from Committee A. That section would have changed the SCPI rating required of faculty to receive promotion, merit increase, tenure, or reappointment after the third year from the current "intermediate plus" rating to "intermediate." The committee's reasoning was that "the reliability statistics we have examined cast in doubt whether the SCPI is currently doing a good job of distinguishing among the various levels of SCPI rankings, especially between intermediate and intermediate plus." The justification further stated that this change should be viewed as a "widening of the net" in order to correctly identify all faculty members who may have attained the appropriate skills level.

According to Faculty Senate and Faculty Chair William Marshall, a challenge to the senate's deletion of this section would require a petition with signatures from 10 percent (35 members) of the faculty. If a challenge petition is completed, Dr. Marshall will call a special meeting of the faculty to discuss the challenge. Because changes to the Faculty Guidelines can only be made during regular, not special, faculty meetings, a regular meeting would then be needed to actually vote on the challenge and to overturn the senate's ruling.



Susan O'Brien, (center) office services supervisor for Pre-College Outreach, her mother, Lillian, and her son, John, relax after spending a Saturday trimming the KDES lobby with decorations to give students and employees at the school a dose of holiday cheer.



Silent Observer, Gallaudet University Press' newest children's book, is on sale at the Press—MSSD Room G-13, the Bookstore, and also at local bookstores.

Press' new children's book portrays deaf girl growing up in Nova Scotia

Called "a definite 'read me again,'" by Cape Breton's Magazine and earning a front-page review in *The Boston Herald's* "Arts and Lifestyle" section, Gallaudet University Press' new children's book *Silent Observer* is off and running this holiday season.

It's also been chosen by the Scholastic Canada Book Club, the U.S. Children's Book-of-the-Month Club, and as a Pick-of-the-List Picture Book by *American Bookseller* magazine.

Silent Observer brings to life the personal notes and drawings of a deaf girl—Christy MacKinnon—as she grew up in the farming community that was turn-of-the-century Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Canada. One of MacKinnon's notes foretold the book's title: "When my story is told, it shall be called *Silent Observer*."

MacKinnon tells of the homemade signs that she, her hard of hearing sister, and their family used to communicate, of her homesickness when she was first sent to the Halifax School for the Deaf and of how she came to love the deaf community there, and of her meeting both Alexander Graham Bell

and Helen Keller.

MacKinnon's niece, Inez Simeone, first arrived at Gallaudet University Press with three hockey bags full of hundreds of her aunt's drawings and handwritten notes on bits of paper and cardboard that her aunt had left to her when she died in 1981. But the jumbled entries left the Press staff daunted.

"We were very impressed and moved by the genuine warmth of Christy's drawings," said Elaine Costello, director of the Press. "But we didn't see how we could bring them all together into a cohesive book. Essentially, we told Mrs. Simeone to show us that it could be done."

So Simeone had the notes transcribed into 300 manuscript pages and organized her aunt's drawings and stories into a full-color mockup of the book.

"After seeing that," Costello said, "all of us were convinced. We fell in love with *Silent Observer*. Thank heaven we did, because its popularity is really blossoming."

After graduating from the Halifax School for the Deaf in 1908, MacKinnon studied art at the Victoria School of the Arts (today the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design) and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. She then worked as an illustrator for FAO Schwarz in New York painting toys, decorating trains, and putting faces on dolls. She later taught at the Halifax School for the Deaf for eight years before marrying John Maxcy, a deaf painter.

Corrections

Dr. Kenneth Epstein did not defy the laws of physics by taking his own picture in the Dec. 6 edition of *On the Green*. Credit for the group photo taken at the Northwest Campus first decade celebration should have gone to Epstein's wife, Marge, who also snapped the photo of Rudolph Hines receiving his 40-year service award that appeared in the same issue.

Photos of KDES students Sigga Jonsson and Joyce Hom rehearsing for "A Christmas Carol" in the Dec. 13 issue omitted credit to photographer Harold Dorwin, whose pictures were printed courtesy of the Anacostia Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Silver named 'Woman of the Year'

Toby Silver, a nationally recognized advocate for television access, was honored as Phi Kappa Zeta Sorority's Woman of the Year at a reception in "Ole Jim" earlier this month.

Silver is a former Gallaudet student, has taught undergraduate courses in the Department of Television, Film, and Photography and the Department of Technical Studies, and has served on several advisory boards at the University.

As a freelance television professional,

Silver has helped make video programming accessible and visually appealing to deaf and hard of hearing viewers. She has served since 1992 as chair of Television for All (TVFA), whose objective is to establish partnerships in the local community to achieve real-time captioning access to live televised news broadcasts in local and cable television markets.

With Silver's leadership, TVFA persuaded local television stations WRC-TV 4 and WUSA-TV (Channel 9) to begin real-time captioning of their news broadcasts. She continues to advocate for real-time captioning at other stations and cable outlets locally and nationally. She also plans to introduce a bill in the 1994 session of the Maryland General Assembly that, if enacted, would require all videotapes to be closed captioned before being distributed for sale or rent in the state of Maryland.

Announcements

A pre-session on teaching ASL as a second language that will be held at Georgetown University's Roundtable on Languages and Linguistics will be held March 12 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Abstracts must be received by Clayton Valli or Ceil Lucas, Department of Linguistics and Interpreting, by Jan. 15.

A call for papers has been issued for "Innovative Partnerships in Recovery: The Diverse Deaf Experience," a national conference on substance abuse and recovery among deaf and hard of hearing people that will be held Nov. 3-5 in Overland Park, Kan. The conference is sponsored by the Gallaudet University Midwestern Regional Center at Johnson County Community College, the Minnesota Chemical Dependency Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals, and Gallaudet's National Academy. For more information or to obtain the call for papers, call Thomas Kober, conference chair, at the National Academy, x5096.



Toby Silver

Classified Ads

Classified ads are printed for Gallaudet faculty and staff. Ads must be submitted in writing in person or by mail to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37. Off-campus phone numbers must include an area code and whether the number is voice or TTY. In compliance with the Education of the Deaf Act of 1992, as amended, payment of \$1 per ad per printing must accompany each ad. The deadline for submitting ads is Friday, 10 days before the desired publication. Because of the winter break, *On the Green* will not be published Dec. 27 or Jan. 3. Ads received Dec. 20-23 will be published Jan. 10. Because of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday *On the Green* will not be published Jan. 17. Ads received Jan. 3-14 will be printed Jan. 24.

WANTED: Independent housemate for Capitol Hill townhouse, full access, W/D, must love dog, \$300/mo. incl. util. Call Mikael, (202) 543-7236 (TTY) eves.

FREE: To good home, adorable, white, long-haired male kitten, 10 wks. old, deaf. Call the Huttons, (703) 522-7960 (V).

FOR RENT: 3-BR house in Waldorf-Sentry Woods w/fireplace, garage, 2 1/2 baths, screened porch, community tennis and pool, near mall and schools, easy access to Rt. 5, \$950/mo. Call x5540, (301) 855-7185 (V), or E-mail SGIBBINS.

FOR SALE: Stearns and Foster queen-size mattress and springs, immaculate, good cond., \$100/set. Call Sue Ellis, x5005, (202) 364-9378 after 8 p.m., or E-mail SLELLIS.

FOR SALE: Beautiful lace and beaded floor-length wedding gown and headpiece, size 9, exc. cond., \$500. Call Bonnie, (202) 396-9267 (V/TTY) days.

FOR RENT: BR w/priv. bath in Silver Spring, Md., condo, near I-95 and Metro, W/D, pool, fireplace, spa, prefer professional or grad. student, no pets or smoking, \$350/mo. plus 1/2 elec. Call (301) 890-2435 (TTY).

FOR SALE: Pine dining table, 4 chairs and bench, good cond., \$110; Chris Webber

basketball card, first draft pick classic card w/autograph, limited edition, \$80/BO; Fleer '93-94 basketball set, perfect cond., \$30; '93 Ultra Fleer Baseball set, perfect cond., \$45 or follow price guide. Call (301) 776-1713 (TTY) eves. or E-mail TSCORCORAN.

FOR RENT: Equipped timeshare condo, Fairfield Harbour, New Bern, N.C., Feb. 6-12, fireplace, golf, \$550/wk./BO. Call (301) 776-1713 (TTY) eves. or E-mail TSCORCORAN.

FOR SALE: 3-story townhouse in Silver Spring, Md., Briggs Chaney area, 2 BRs, 1 1/2 baths, walkout basement, loft dining room, wooded backyard, \$115,000. Call Dale, (301) 725-6769 (V/TTY) or E-mail DKFORD.

WANTED: Housemate to share 2-BR house in Cheverly, Md., CAC, W/D, porch, large yard, walk to Metro, no pets or smoking, professional female preferred, \$400/mo. plus 1/2 util. Call (301) 773-7753 (V).

WANTED: Independent roommate for house in Alexandria, Va., must have car, love dogs. Call Jane, x5115 or (703) 768-3818 (V/TTY) after 10 p.m., or E-mail JNORMAN.

WANTED: Nonsmoking, quiet professional or grad student to share house w/one other person in Laurel, Md., nice neighborhood near I-95, priv. entrance, \$350/mo. plus util. Call (301) 776-3893 (V/TTY).

Job Openings

Some of the advertised positions may already be filled. The list below includes only new staff and faculty openings and does not represent all jobs available. To get a recorded message describing the complete list, call x5358 (V) or x5359 (TTY).

INTAKE PROCESSOR/OFFICE ASSISTANT: Center for Career Programs

RESEARCH TECHNICIAN: Center for Auditory and Speech Sciences

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